

# THE TRINITARIAN

Published Weekly by the  
**HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
6822 BROADVIEW ROAD, PARMA, OHIO 44134  
**CHURCH OFFICE PHONE: 216-524-4859**  
**CHURCH WEBSITE: <http://www.holy-trin.org>**  
V. REV. VLADIMIR BERZONSKY, PASTOR

Divine Liturgy at 9:00 A.M.  
Church School Every Sunday at 10:45 A.M.  
(During the Months of September thru May)

Vespers - Every Saturday - 5:00 P.M.  
Choir Rehearsals Every Thursday at 7:30 P.M.  
Michael N. Pilat, Choir Director

RECTORY: 963 John Glenn Drive, Seven Hills, Ohio 44131 Phone 216-524-8989

BULLETIN 6 - VOLUME XLIX

TONE 1

DECEMBER 11, 2011

## **TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST** **SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS**

*Ven. Daniel the Stylite of Constantinople; Ven. Nikon the Dry of the Kiev Caves;  
Martyrs Mirax, Acepisus and Aithalas, of Egypt; Ven. Luke the New Stylite of Chalcedon;  
New Hieromartyrs Seraphim, Metropolitan of Petrograd, Archpriests Peter and Aleksy, and Nikolai*

“Making your home on a pillar, you were like a brightly shining star, letting your works shine forth for all to see, and dispersing the darkness of falsehood and error. Therefore, we beseech you, O blessed father: Make the never-waning light of understanding dawn in our hearts.”

Kondakion for Daniel the Stylite

### **REPOSE OF VEN. HERMAN OF ALASKA, WONDERWORKER OF ALL AMERICA**

*Tuesday, December 13*

“O joyful north star of the Church of Christ, guiding us to the kingdom of heaven. O apostle and teacher of the true faith, faithful advocate and defender of all the oppressed: Now that you rejoice in the presence of the Lord, do not forget this land of ours here below. Beg Christ, our God, to save our souls.”

Troparion, Tone IV

TODAY'S EPISTLE: COLOSSIANS 3:4-11  
NEXT SUNDAY: HEBREWS 11:9-10,17-23,32-40

TODAY'S GOSPEL: LUKE 14:16-24  
NEXT SUNDAY: MATTHEW 1:1-25

#### **HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:**

Today, December 11 11:45 a.m. Requiem for Doris Solanics  
Saturday, December 17 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers; Confessions

#### **Daily Scripture Readings**

Monday, December 12	I Timothy 5:1-10	Mark 8:11-21
Tuesday, December 13	Galatians 5:22-6:2	Luke 6:17-23
Wednesday, December 14	I Timothy 5:11-21	Mark 8:22-26
	I Timothy 5:22-6:11	Mark 8:30-34
Thursday, December 15	I Timothy 6:17-21	Mark 9:10-16
Friday, December 16	II Timothy 1:1-2,8-18	Mark 9:33-41
Saturday, December 17	Galatians 5:22-6:2	Luke 14:1-11

**ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY**

Bulletin 6 - Volume XLIX

December 11, 2011

**COMING EVENTS**

**DECEMBER:**

11, TODAY 5:00 p.m. Pan-Orthodox Nativity Concert at St. Sava Cathedral  
27, Tuesday 10:00 a.m. Laser Tag and pizza luncheon; 13409 Smith Rd; Middleburg Hts.  
30, Friday 7:00 p.m. Cleveland Deanery Youth Lock-In at St. Michael's

**JANUARY:**

8, Sunday 11:30 a.m. Pork and Sauerkraut Dinner

**GOD'S BLESSINGS:**

To all who worked to make our annual St. Nicholas festivities last Sunday so enjoyable.

To Jerry Kall for the *kresch* scene in the Fellowship Hall.

To Jim and Elizabeth Vertosnik for donating our charming Christmas tree.

**SWEET SALE:**

Proceeds from the Sweet Sale held in November were \$244, which will be earmarked for the Driveway Fund. Thank you to all that donated and purchased bakery.

**CLEVELAND DEANERY YOUTH LOCK-IN:**

HTOC youth, ages 11-18, are invited to Archangel Michael Church on Friday, Dec. 30, at 7:00 p.m. for a night of fun. The event will last until Saturday, Dec. 31, 10:00 a.m. See the flier on the bulletin board.

**PORK AND SAUERKRAUT DINNER:**

SAVE THE DATE! A pork and sauerkraut dinner with proceeds to aid our Driveway Fund is Sunday, Jan. 8, at 11:30. Adults \$12.50; \$7 for 12 and under.

**FLOWERS AND TRINITARIAN COVERS:**

The flowers and covers today are offered by Pauline Smolarchuk in memory of her husband John.

**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING:**

Our annual meeting will be held January 15, 2012. If you wish to submit your name for serving on Church Council, please notify Janene Hatch (office phone is 216-524-4859).

**LASER TAG:**

We are scheduled for 10:00 a.m. till noon on Tuesday, Dec. 27, for a Laser Tag outing at Lazer X Treme, 13409 Smith Rd; Middleburg Hts. Come join the fun! Please contact Barry Gluntz (216-396-2399) if you plan to attend. The cost is \$14.99, and we will have a pizza luncheon provided after the event.

**PAN-ORTHODOX NATIVITY CONCERT:**

The 19th Annual Nativity Concert will be hosted by St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Cathedral on Sunday, Dec. 11, at 5:00 p.m. All are invited; free will donation.

**TRINITARIAN COVERS:**

There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall if you wish to offer covers in 2012. The cost is \$8; or \$20 for Pascha, Christmas, and any special cover you might like to order for an occasion; catalogs are available in the church office.

**IN MEMORY:**

The family of Doris Solanics is sponsoring Coffee Hour refreshments today in memory of Doris.

**THE GIFTS WE OFFER TO THE LORD WE LOVE**

REGULAR COLLECTION, DECEMBER 4	\$ 4697.00
CHILDREN'S COLLECTION	9.00
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION ASSESSMENT	655.00
BUILDING FUND	234.00
MORTGAGE FUND	252.00
CANDLES	156.00
LOCAL CHARITIES	130.00
ORTHODOX CHARITIES	43.00
THANKSGIVING	171.00
DRIVEWAY FUND	329.00

**AGAIN AND AGAIN IN PEACE**

***“Again and again in peace, let us pray to the Lord” (Little Litany)***

Again I was asked, *“Why is there so much repetition in our prayers?”* And again I responded the way I always had before - our worship includes certain themes and terms that bear repeating, because they remind us to pay attention to something significant on the way, or else to waft us upwards into the rarefied spiritual atmosphere of the Kingdom, lest we drift back down to the temporal and mundane area where we more normally spend our mental time.

Peace is among the most prominent; wisdom, another; and mercy, a third. Peace is the spiritual state that liberates us from the environment of distractions at minimum, angst, depression, hostility and self-destruction at worst. More than thirty times one hears the term *“peace”* throughout the Divine Liturgy, and at each hearing one should revive within oneself the aura of serenity. Think of it as an intake of mystical oxygen that clears the head and heart from lethargy and heaviness. Let it remind you of Who it is that is blessing you with peace, the price He paid to present it to you, and the moment *par excellence* when by the glorious mystical contact you have with the Apostles, you are there with them in the Upper Room of the dwelling of St. Mark’s gracious mother that traumatic evening when He appeared. He greeted you also with peace. You remember that He said: *“My peace I give to you; My peace I leave with you – not as the world gives, do I give to you.”* (John 14:27)

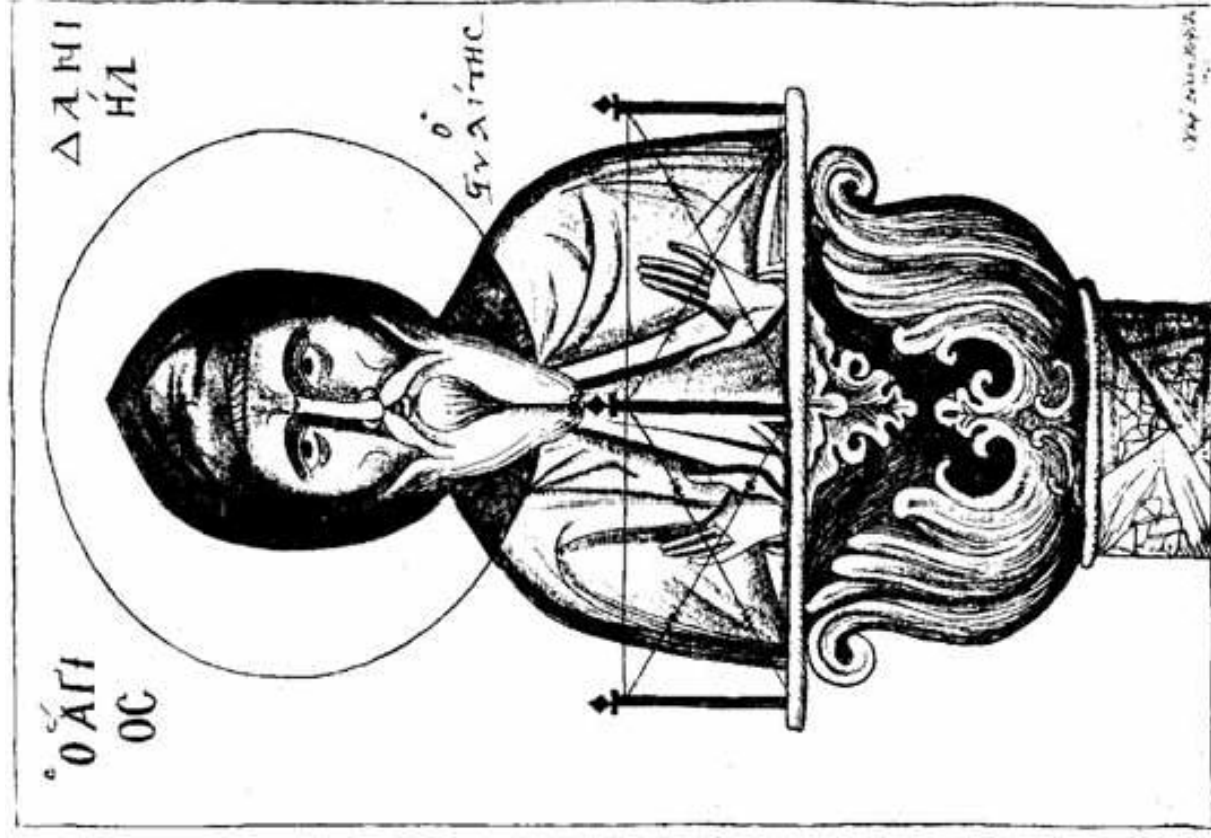
*“Wisdom!”* is another power-packed word you hear *“again and again.”* Snap out of your daydreams, it insists. This is not the time for reveries – mooning over something disturbing or planning your afternoon. You are here and now. Make the most of it. Something ponderous, wise and precious for your soul is about to be set forth. *“Attend!”* Pay attention. Focus your wandering thoughts and listen attentively. You may have heard it before, you may even know it by heart; nevertheless, even if the words of the gospel or prayer haven’t changed, you have. You are not the same person who listened in previous times of worship. Maybe then the phrases or parables didn’t mean much because it did not relate to your perceived needs at the time. Today you are another person from that stage of life. See now what you can make of it and apply it to your present situation.

The Divine Liturgy is in a sense much like classical music, an opera perhaps, a symphony – or better yet, a concert where one human “instrument,” the priest, is played against the response, the choir or congregation. It has modulated into its present form. A classic treatise on that development is called *“The Shape of the Liturgy,”* by Dom Gregory Dix. It has indeed taken shape from a time when the people of Christ gathered, the bishop entered and said, *“Peace be with you,”* and all responded, *“And also with you.”* They all sat or stood, heard and discussed the sacred scriptures, then continued with Eucharist. That basic outline has been enhanced through the centuries into its present form. Indeed, it is challenging to absorb and assimilate its divine beauty, then to apply it to oneself. More formidable a venture when offered in a foreign tongue, but even in English it remains a study in constant progress. One must first love it to be comfortable in prayer. It goes without saying, of course, one must first love God with all one’s heart, soul and mind even to make the effort to immerse one’s self into the Liturgy. Granted, it’s not a simple matter to develop an appreciation for the way we pray. We live at a time when people lack the ability to focus or concentrate. They expect instant gratification, entertainment, and quick responses to their felt “needs.” Orthodox Christianity challenges its children to grow in grace, develop a mind and soul able to comprehend the value of the treasures offered to us and expressed in our sacred worship, and to return our affection to the Holy Trinity *“again and again.”*

*Father Vladimir Berzonsky*

“Therefore we must learn first of all that we ought *always to pray and not to faint*. For the effect of prayer is union with God, and if someone is with God, he is separated from the enemy. Through prayer we guard our chastity, control our temper, and rid ourselves of vanity; it makes us forget injuries, overcomes envy, defeats injustice, and makes amends for sin. Through prayer we obtain physical well-being, a happy home, and a strong well-ordered society. Prayer will make our nation powerful, will give us victory in war and security in peace; it reconciles enemies and preserves allies. Prayer is the seal of virginity and a pledge of faithfulness in marriage; it shields the wayfarer, protects the sleeper, and gives courage to those who keep vigil. It obtains a good harvest for the farmer and a safe port for the sailor.”

St Gregory of Nyssa



VEN. DANIEL THE STYLITE OF CONSTANTINOPLE

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